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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Skolnick et al. Art Unit : 1631
Serial No. : 09/322,067 Examiner : Dr. Michael Borin
Filed : May 27, 1999
Title : METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PREDICTING PROTEIN FUNCTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the final Office Action mailed October 09, 2001, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and consideration of the remarks set forth herein. The initial three-month response date was January 09, 2002, but a three-month extension (until April 9, 2002) has been obtained by payment of the appropriate fee through Deposit Account No. 06-1050. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed.

This response is also accompanied by a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114. Thus, the finality of the outstanding final office action should be withdrawn, as Applicants are entitled to have this first submission for this RCE entered and considered on the merits. The following documents are transmitted herewith:

- Facsimile cover sheet
- Request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114
- VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.

Date of Transmission April 9, 2002
Signature Jeanne Armour Rice
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate Jeanne Armour-Rice